

New Federal Safe Routes to School Program

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National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

SRTS Program Overview

- Federally-assisted \$612 million program, spread over 5 years and 51 DOTs
- Created in Section 1404 of SAFETEA-LU
- Three main requirements of law:
 - Implement SRTS program nationwide
 - Create Clearinghouse
 - Establish Task Force



Purpose of Program

- Enable and encourage children to walk/bike to school
- Make biking/walking to school safer and more appealing
- Facilitate projects and activities in the vicinity of schools that will:
 - improve safety
 - reduce traffic
 - reduce air pollution
 - reduce fuel consumption



Program Implementation

- *Program Guidance* issued in January 2006 (available online)
- State DOTs responsible for program, must provide full-time Coordinator
- Program is for schools K – 8
- Apportionments based on enrollments in elementary and middle schools
- No State receives less than \$1 million/year



Program Implementation

- Two funding categories:
 - *Infrastructure Projects*
 - *Non-Infrastructure Projects*
- State DOTs encouraged to establish competitive application process
- Eligible grant recipients include:
 - State, local and regional agencies and non-profits



Eligible Projects: Infrastructure (70 – 90% of funds)

- Must be within 2 miles of school (K-8)
- Planning, design, and construction
- Extensive list of eligible projects in Guidance
- Guidance also addresses *ineligible* uses



Eligible Activities: Non-Infrastructure (10–30% funds)

- *Education, Encouragement, and Enforcement* programs
- Further specifics in Program Guidance



SRTS Clearinghouse

Grant to national non-profit organization:

- Operate Clearinghouse
- Develop *information and educational programs*
- Provide *technical assistance*



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<http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/saferoutes/>

SRTS Task Force

- Shall be composed of leaders in health, transportation, and education.
- Study and develop strategy for advancing SRTS Programs nationwide.
- Will report to Congress



Thank you!

Questions?

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Web Addresses

Clearinghouse: <http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/>

<http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/saferoutes/>



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